

# UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA

## ADDRESSES

By

His Excellency the Right Hon'ble Victor Alexander  
George Robert, Earl of Lytton, P.C., G.C.I.E.,

*Chancellor of the University*

and

By

Jadunath Sarkar, Esq., C.I.E., M.A.,

*Vice-Chancellor of the University*

at the

## ANNUAL CONVOCATION

on

Saturday, the 19th February, 1927

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# CALCUTTA UNIVERSITY CONVOCATION

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## His Excellency the Chancellor's Address

MR. VICE-CHANCELLOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

For the fifth and last time I address you in Convocation. If, as Aristotle tells us, it is difficult to say a second time what one has in essence said before, how can I hope to speak in this Hall for a fifth time without wearying you by repetition or traversing familiar ground ? I am encouraged, however, by the knowledge that though the scene is the same as that in which I first spoke in 1923 my audience is a different one. The present Vice-Chancellor is the fourth, with whom I have been privileged to work, and though there are some professors and heads of colleges who have been present at the last four convocations the bulk of my audience—the students—come fresh to the scene every year. And since it is for them rather than for their teachers and professors that this ceremony is held I may without any apology repeat to this year's recipients

of degrees the words of encouragement that I have addressed to their predecessors.

In the first place, Ladies and Gentlemen, let me congratulate you on having successfully passed the examination which has enabled you to receive at the hands of the Vice-Chancellor the certificates which testify to your academic success. Four or six years ago you passed through the entrance gate into the University. To-day you are passing through another gate which is at once the gate of exit from the University and the gate of entrance into life. I wish you all happiness and prosperity in the wider world that lies before you. Tests and competitions of one kind or another will await you even there for, as Browning has reminded us, "All to the very end is trial in life." So you will find, as doubtless some of you have found already, that life is one long series of examinations different from those to which you have been accustomed and testing other qualities than those which can be made the subject of paper examinations. I hope that in all these you may meet with the same success which you have achieved so far.

When I recall my own school and college days I am ashamed to confess that very few of the words of advice that were addressed to me by older men of wisdom and experience have remained in my memory. But there was one sermon spoken from the pulpit in my college chapel which set

my imagination on fire as I listened to it and which I shall never forget. The preacher on that occasion reminded us of the impressive pageant of Empire which we had recently witnessed in London on the occasion of Queen Victoria's second Jubilee. He described in eloquent terms the representative character of that pageant, he enumerated the many lands, races and peoples who composed the dominions of the great Queen and who had sent their most distinguished men to do her honour; he spoke of the vast responsibilities which the administration of such an Empire entailed, of the qualities of statesmanship required to maintain harmony and unity among its component parts. "And where," he asked in conclusion, "are we to look for the men who will carry on this work, shoulder these responsibilities and maintain unimpaired the great traditions of the past?" Then he thrilled us all with these words "If they are to be found anywhere they must be found here. They are among those whom I see before me."

So as I gaze upon this gathering of young men and women who are standing upon the threshold of life, I feel that here, if anywhere, are to be found those of whom India will have need in the years to come. What, then, can I say to you in order to prepare you for this high destiny? There was an old Philosopher once who, when asked by his friends on his death-bed if he had anything to regret, replied "I have only

one regret that in my life I did not praise men more.”

I must confess that I have never derived much benefit from those preachers who addressed their congregations as the inheritors of every sin and doomed to perdition, unless they could be saved by a special measure of divine mercy, but I have been much helped and encouraged by those who honoured me with their good opinion. It is as one who believes in you, who expects much of you, that I speak. Emerson says that it is only a friend who can make us be what we can—with a friend “we are easily great, there is a sublime attraction in him to whatever virtue is in us.”

It is as a friend then in this sense, as “one who pays you the complement of expecting from you all the virtues,” that I would address you to-day, and my only message to you is to remind you of the great possibilities which lie before you, the great things which it is in your power to accomplish—India has a very ancient civilization behind her, but she has also a great future before her. In the modern world she is only just beginning to wake out of a long sleep. She has been the cradle of many races but as a nation among nations she has still herself to make and her place to assert. In Industry, in Commerce, in Science, in Literature, in Art, in Politics she needs more than ever before men and women with trained minds and upright characters—and

the need for women is perhaps even greater than that for men. India needs you for her service and she expects that already in your college days you shall have acquired some of the qualities which will fit you for that service. Some of you have just received degrees of Master and Bachelor in Law, some in Medicine, some in Arts and all of you have therefore begun to qualify for that last degree of all—the degree of Master of Life. I would ask you to believe that in all these matters in which you have specialized it is not the forms you make use of but the spirit in which you use them, the principles rather than the methods you adopt, which will secure for you that last degree. It is not the drugs which you dispense but the extent to which the pursuit of health is your goal that will enable you to bring credit to India as a doctor. It is not the composition of the courts or the forms of law which you practise but the extent to which justice is your aim that will enable you as a lawyer to set your country high in the estimation of the world. India will not thank you for changing the forms of her government and institutions unless thereby you can bring more health, more happiness, more prosperity to her people.

When you come to the end of life you will look back upon your college days and judge them by the rapidity or otherwise with which they brought you to that realization, which Emerson tells us

comes some time in every man's education, " that envy is ignorance ; that imitation is suicide ; that he must take himself for better, for worse, as his portion; that though the wide universe is full of good, no kernel of nourishing corn can come to him but through his toil bestowed on that plot of ground which is given to him to till." You will each of you have your plot to till in preparing for the harvest of the future, your part to play in building up the fabric of Indian nationhood. In this work two qualities will be required of you, sincerity and tolerance—to trust yourselves and to trust others. " Trust thyself; every heart vibrates to that iron string. Great men have always done so, and confided themselves childlike to the genius of their age, betraying their perception that the absolutely trustworthy was seated at their heart, working through their hands, predominating in all their being. And we are now men and must accept in the highest mind the same transcendent destiny; as guides, redeemers and benefactors, obeying the Almighty Effort and advancing on Chaos and the Dark." Could any words more fittingly describe the work which awaits the generation which in India to-day is just beginning its life work? When I think of all the problems, insoluble except to the eye of faith, of all the difficulties that have to be overcome, of all the diversities that have to be reconciled, I realize how great is the need for a generation rich in

individuality, sincere in purpose, courageous in action.

For individual achievement these qualities may suffice, but if you are to be nation-builders there is another which is equally essential, indeed without which all other qualities are useless. That is tolerance, trust in others equal to the trust in yourself, the willingness to concede to all men the liberty you would yourself enjoy, that power to associate with others for a common good which the Vice-Chancellor has spoken of.

However shapely and well-proportioned a brick may be, however perfect the quality of stone or marble, they are useless as building material unless they possess the power to coalesce. The brick that insists on remaining a brick is useless except for the destructive purpose of being used as a missile. What India needs is not dynamite but cement, not brickbats but walls, men and women who will live for her rather than die for her. It is easy enough to die for a cause but to live for it is harder. To remain true to a cause throughout a life-time, to grow wiser and stronger in its service, to work for it always on the condition that no other is injured thereby—that is a task which will test a man to the utmost.

To such a task I hope you are prepared to devote yourselves and in the accomplishment of it to unite with all who share your ideals, regardless of the barriers of caste or creed.

Gentlemen, I have valued my association with your University during the five years in which it has been my privilege to be your Chancellor. I have sought to serve it. I hope that within the narrow limits which circumstances financial and political permitted I have served it. The Vice-Chancellor has encouraged me to believe that some of the acts of my government during the last five years are recognized as having been beneficial. The stabilization of the Post-Graduate Department and the revision of the Matriculation regulations by which the Vernacular will be made a medium of instruction and examination are at least I hope solid achievements free from any element of controversy. The establishment of a Board of Secondary Education—a more debateable subject—has not yet been accomplished. We have, however, had several conferences which have narrowed the issues and brought the Government and the University nearer together. I am hopeful that this question is now ripe for settlement by agreement and though I may not see it accomplished I can, I think, regard it when it comes as a legacy of my period of office as Chancellor.

That it has not been given to me to see the achievement of those reforms which the University Commission considered essential will be to me in retirement a source of keen regret. It is sad to think that other Universities have derived more

benefit from the labours of that Commission than this one with whose welfare they were exclusively occupied. Many of the weaknesses which they deplored remain unremedied, young lives are still cheated of their highest aspirations by inadequate teaching, the constitution of the University remains unreformed. But I leave you in hope rather than in despair, for, if during my term opinion has not been able to crystallize into action, if the forces opposing change have succeeded in checking not only radical reform but even minor change, yet opinion in favour of reform has, I think, been growing and will before long express itself in an insistent demand for action. For Bengal knows that change in the present constitution of the University is essential though there is not yet agreement as to the exact nature of the change desired. This University claims the sentiment and devotion of Bengal in a way which no other institution in the Province can hope to emulate and the public which can now through their Minister control educational policy will, I am convinced, not tolerate obstruction to reform, for with their pride in the intellectual capacity of the Province they will not rest satisfied with anything but the best, nor will they allow reform to prejudice the permanent interests of the University. Changes will come and I shall watch them from afar with interest and with sympathy. And so I say farewell in hope and expectancy, confident

that the harvest for which I have worked will be brought to maturity before many years have passed and that Bengal, which I have tried to serve, will not rest, as I have never rested, until the grain glows golden and ripe for the harvester.

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**Address of the Vice-Chancellor,  
Mr. Jadunath Sarkar, C.I.E., M.A.**

**MY LORD,**

The five years of Your Excellency's Chancellorship, which we regret to contemplate, are now drawing to a close, have been crowded with events many of which are of far-reaching importance to us. They will influence the work of this University and mould the character of higher education in this country probably for the whole of the next generation.

In the first place, we have at last made a serious attempt to grapple with the stupendous problem of improving the school education of a population of 45 millions of souls. The School Code for the guidance of all non-Government Schools teaching for our Matriculation Examination was passed by us and came into operation during the year now closing. The Senate of the

University has also approved of a scheme for creating a Board of Secondary Education, which happily ends a long period of controversy and makes a fairly close approach to a compromise with the Education Department. Legislation alone is now needed to bring the Board into existence and thus relieve the University and the Vice-Chancellor of the heavy burden of school supervision which has hitherto prevented them from giving their undivided attention to the proper work of a University.

Thirdly, the vernacular medium for school teaching and examination, with due safeguards for securing an adequate knowledge of English in the pupils, has been adopted by us and received Your Excellency's approval. At the same time a stand has at last been made against the gradual decline in the standard of our examinations and the consequent lowering of the intellectual equipment of our College students, against which teachers no less than the employers of educated labour have so long protested. In the Examinations of 1926, the opinions of the actual examiners on the merits of the answer-papers looked through by them were given the weight that legitimately belongs to them. On the motion of that veteran educationist, Principal Herambachandra Maitra, the chief defects noted by the examiners in last year's candidates were summarised and circulated to all the schools and colleges under this University, with instructions

to improve their teaching and to carefully weed out all incompetent or insufficiently prepared students at the time of sending their pupils up for our examinations. We are sure that this wise policy, if persisted in, will steadily raise the proportion of passes, while maintaining the proper standard of examinations, and at the same time save really weak students from wasting their money and energy by going in for examinations for which they are clearly unfit. Guardians, I am sure, will be the first to appreciate this change for the better.

Fifthly, the regulations for our medical degree have been entirely recast, expanding the course, improving the method of instruction, and raising the standard of examination, so as to bring us into line with the advance of medical science and the reform of medical teaching in other parts of the Empire. This, again, is a change for the better, which every Indian who has a body subject to ailments will appreciate.

Eight years ago, Chief Justice Sanderson declared from this Chair that, in his opinion, "the improvement of the efficiency of the administration of this University to any great extent was not possible at present, because the system upon which and the machinery by which the University is run are in many respects out of date \* \* \* and the amount of work which falls to the lot of the Vice-Chancellor is now so great that no one can, under present conditions,

fulfil the office of Vice-Chancellor properly unless he can give his whole time to it." It has been possible for Your Excellency, before your departure from our shores, to supply this long-felt need of our University by appointing a full-time Vice-Chancellor.

But the thing for which Your Excellency's Chancellorship will, I venture to predict, be most remembered is the successful stabilisation of the Post-graduate or special teaching department of this University. Fifty years ago, your illustrious father had declared in this Hall,—"The highest function of a University is rather that of a great national reservoir for thoroughly original research; a provision for the extension rather than the diffusion of knowledge, by means of which the search after truth may be freely prosecuted in all directions by independent thinkers and investigators not harassed or hampered by reliance for the means of subsistence on professional life or popular favour."

My Lord, it must be a matter of great satisfaction to Your Excellency to have rendered the realisation of this high ideal possible for us. The Government of Bengal granted to us on an average Rs. 4,09,000 during each of the last five years for meeting the deficit inevitable in conducting the highest academic work. That Government has promised us the same assistance for the next four years, after which the terms of the grant are liable to re-examination. On behalf of this

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University I can assure Your Excellency that we are fully prepared to give evidence of our good faith by making the most careful and economical use of this public fund and by co-operating with your agents in the matter of audit and publicity. I am confident that the Post-graduate department of this University can afford to be judged by its work, and when the five-yearly term of the present grant is over we shall be able to make out a strong case for an increase in its amount.

In addition to the above seven very important changes in our University, there has been a marked advance on our part on lines initiated some time before. Two out of these deserve special mention, namely, the medical inspection and physical training of our students and the building up of the laboratories and libraries of our missionary and private colleges by means of a special Government grant of Rs. 1,29,000 every year. The 25 colleges among which this large total of nearly  $6\frac{1}{2}$  lakhs has been distributed during Your Excellency's term as Governor had very scanty resources of their own for these specific purposes, and they have been signally benefited by this aid. The University has also received from your Government the handsome grant of nearly two lakhs of rupees for constructing the third storey of the Asutosh Building, which will afford sorely needed lecture rooms to our teaching department.

Several of the non-Government colleges which

feed this University have also received from the Bengal Government money aid for meeting their maintenance charges to the extent of a lakh and a half of rupees a year on an average during the last two years. If to these we add the State expenditure on the Presidency College, which carries on Post-graduate teaching for us in several branches and is the only institution under us teaching Geology, then the financial assistance rendered by Your Excellency's Government to this University, directly and indirectly, would be found to reach a total of nearly ten lakhs of rupees a year.

My Lord, in your first Convocation address as our Chancellor, you expressed "a devout hope that it might be your privilege to render some service to the University in that capacity" and you assured us that "you would study to promote the permanent interests of the University to the best of your ability."

The bare facts that I have already cited from the University records prove in what a full and generous measure our departing Chancellor has kept his promise and how valued his services to this University have been.

Now turning to our own work, I may recall that half a century ago, the first Earl of Lytton saw a great vision of this University's future. In his Chancellor's address he declared, "For my own part, I certainly hope that a day may come, though no doubt it is yet far distant, when

Europe will look to the Universities of India for the world's highest Sanskrit, Persian and Arabic scholarship, a day when these Universities will be recognised as the great store-houses of original discovery made by Science."

My Lord, we are not so vain as to claim that we have already attained to this lofty ideal, but the research work carried on by the professors of this University and its constituent colleges shows that we are fairly on the way to its realisation. Dr. Sunitikumar Chatterjee, who won brilliant distinction at the London School of Oriental Studies, has this year brought out a history of the Origin and Development of the Bengali Language, the scientific value of which has been warmly acknowledged by Sir George Grierson and other experts in Philology, and which is destined to remain as the standard authority on the modern Indian languages for many years to come. Another member of our Post-graduate staff, Dr. Niranjanprasad Chakravarti, after taking the Ph.D. at Cambridge, worked at Paris and was entrusted by Professor Paul Pelliot with the editing and annotation of some of the oldest Brahmi texts discovered in Central Asia by the Mission Pelliot; the French Government are publishing his scholarly work. A third of our Professors, Dr. Prabodhchandra Bagchi, Docteur-*es-Lettres* (Paris), has compiled a History of Chinese-Buddhist Literature, which renders Bunyo Nanjio's catalogue of the Chinese Tripitaka

obsolete and which is being published from Paris. He has also been asked by Prof. Pelliot to edit some old Chinese texts from Central Asia.

These are instances of the highest honour possible in the domain of oriental scholarship. Others among our staff have done creditable work during the year now closing. In the more difficult field of the exact sciences, in which we Indians once laboured under great natural disadvantages, our professors have continued the high tradition which they themselves created a few years ago, as a reference to the frequency and value of their contributions to the *Philosophical Magazine* and other learned journals of Europe will prove. Time will not permit me to mention all of them by name here, but I owe it to them to place before the public a statement of the original research done by our Post-graduate staff during the last year, in the form of an appendix to my address.

There are two tests which may be fairly imposed on research done in India. We might ask if the work has been examined and approved by the recognised masters of that particular branch of science in the great outer world of scholarship,—or, whether the result has been accepted and incorporated in European text-books. Now, both of these distinctions can be claimed by several members of this University's teaching side. We have gone even further, and with a view to place the Doctorate of this University

above criticism, we have, in almost every case during the last two years, sent the theses submitted for our doctor's degree to a board of three examiners in Europe, whose names command the respect of the learned world and who occupy a detached position of impartiality far away from India. We may, therefore, legitimately claim that a Calcutta Doctor of Philosophy or Science who has passed such a test does not in any way represent a lower intellectual standard than a Doctor of any British University.

There is one matter in this connection in which I can rightly appeal for public sympathy. While our professors are thus earnestly trying to do their duty, we, the executive directory of the University, are bound to make the conditions of their service helpful to their work. Security of tenure after a successful period of probation and graded salary ought to be assured to them, if their good work is to continue. The increased financial liability which will fall on the University through the normal increase in the graded salaries, will, I am sure, receive the sympathetic consideration of the Finance Member when our five-yearly settlement with Government comes to be revised in 1930. But before that date there are three matters in which, I feel, the University has a very strong case for demanding public donations and State aid. The first is the residence of the University teachers near the scene of their work. The housing conditions of men with

moderate incomes in Calcutta are deplorable. Many of our teachers have, therefore, to shelter themselves in the suburbs and even in distant towns like Hughli and Barrackpur. Quite apart from the hardship and loss of time which this dispersion inflicts upon the teachers, their work suffers greatly. A University cannot do its legitimate work as a brotherhood of scholars, a factory of research, a field of intellectual training through guided work and well-knit co-operation, if its teachers live so far apart from one another and can come to it only for an hour or two a day,—if the students cannot frequently and freely consult their masters, and if the men working on allied subjects get only rare opportunities for the exchange of their ideas and the co-ordination of their research. In the interests of the University itself, no less than for the benefit of our teachers, we should provide housing accommodation to our staff within the University area.

Secondly, our work in science is hampered by the cramped situation of the present University College of Science in North Calcutta and the distance of six miles which separates it from the other branch of our Science College located in South Ballyganj. Co-operation between these two and their effective supervision alike are rendered impossible by this distance. The Biology Department ought to be located close to the main Science College, if we are to utilise the assistance and guidance so generously offered by

Sir Jagadish Bose (whose Institute is next door to our College), and also make our Physics and Chemistry staff and apparatus available to our Biology Department. Thus Science teaching in all its allied branches can be offered to our students, Biology can be given a fair chance of establishing itself in Calcutta, and a real economy in books and apparatus can be effected, by avoiding the need of duplication which the dispersion of our resources now forces on us.

Thirdly, the University Training Corps, which has now taken a firm root,—thanks to the efforts of several college teachers and devoted propaganda workers among the outer public,—requires to be put on a stabler basis. The rank and file have made very creditable improvement, thanks to the sympathy and labour of their Adjutant, Captain Ribchester, and his officers. But the teachers and students in the Corps rightly complain that their camp is held in December, which is just before their examinations and is also the best season for college work. This interruption of college work involves a great loss of teaching. I appeal for the provision of Rs. 24,000 in the Annual Budget for the necessary expenses of holding the camp of exercise in the hills in May and June, when all the colleges are closed and the full strength of the Corps can go to the hills for exercise and change alike.

To the new graduates of this University I offer my hearty congratulations on the happy

termination of their toils in one sphere and my good wishes for their success in the new sphere they are about to enter. The great world of action lies before them, like an unexplored continent,—unknown, strange, bewildering. On such an occasion we might naturally ask, what should be the young University man's outlook upon life, with what principles should he fortify himself before entering the practical world, how can the University best prepare him for that life of action which is the highest test of human character and the finest flower of human endeavour ?

To the pure scholar the legacy of his University is a scientifically trained intellect, methodical habits of work, a quenchless thirst for truth. To the specialist it is technical skill in his special branch of work. The professional man will expect from it the necessary mental equipment for practising his profession. Others will look for a general liberal culture as the result of their University days. But there is one thing of supreme value to man in his relations with other men and the material world, which a good University can teach more thoroughly and more universally than any other agency. It is community of life and thought.

By this I do not mean that we should all try to become as like one another as eggs, in food and dress, thought and speech, pleasure and pastime,—a sort of artificial machine-made uniform, spare parts moving about on two legs. I onl,

plead for the standardizing of the external things of life, and for unity in the outlook upon life,—as the processes of reasoning, of scientific investigation, of historical research have already been standardized in the civilized world.

It is true that the highest creations of art must bear the stamp of the peculiar genius of the painter or poet who has conceived them, and will fail if they follow any general pattern or type. Each literary style,—though style is only the outward garb of thought,—must take its form and colour from the personality of the writer and cannot be cast into a common mould. The heavenward ascent of the devotee's soul, the lonely communion of the mystic with God, must be achieved by individual personal exertion and not by mass prayer or by any uniform typed plan ritual. The genius of the geographical explorer, the mechanical inventor or the scientific discoverer succeeds only because it leaves the beaten track and refuses to do what others are doing.

But, at the same time, there are certain broad principles which govern the life and thought of all civilized men. Individuals will, no doubt, differ in their personal taste for this or that delicacy of food, but all men are subject to the same laws of nature as regards the quantity and kind of their necessary nourishment and the food-value of the different articles of their diet. The principles of science are the same in all branches of research and for all workers regardless of their

individual genius. The true canons of aesthetics make the same appeal to the human spirit in India and Sweden, unaffected by the peculiarities of race and creed, time and climate. The rules of ratiocination were the same in ancient Greece and Aryan India. The laws of mathematics hold good in Bengal and Scotland alike. A chemical experiment first made in Germany is capable of verification and repetition in Japan. A newly discovered medicine has the same potency in Calcutta as in Canada. Pure reason makes—or ought to make—the same appeal in the arctic and the torrid zones alike.

Leaving out the spiritual side of our nature as purely personal and private, we are bound to admit that there is a very large basis for agreement among civilized men in most matters of their material existence, in their method of investigating truth, in their ethical code, and even in their outlook upon life. Behind the external differences of race and creed, caste and climate, there is a broad unity among men in all things that really matter—in the essentials of life and thought. Science has demonstrated the existence of this common element. History proves that no people can form a nation, no nation can become great, unless it realises the supreme value of this community of life and thought, and establishes it among its citizens by transcending the barriers of caste and creed, the privileges of birth, and communal peculiarities,—unless a fair

field and no favour is accepted as the national policy and all are made equal in the eye of law, equal in political status, equal in the opportunities of life, equal in social standing. A nation that has acquired and widely diffused among all its members this community of life and thought, becomes almost independent of personality and the accidents of birth and death among its leaders. Its fortunes do not depend upon one king or general, but like the ancient Senate of Rome its governing council is a vast assembly of kings.

The belief that a certain caste is the eldest son of the Creator, or that a particular race is the chosen seed of the Lord, or that a particular country is destined by Providence to lord it over all others,—is opposed to scientific truth, contrary to the teaching of history, and fatal to the world's peace and progress.

Nor has such a narrow communal pride, such nursing of racial peculiarities, promoted the real good of the favoured creed or race. On the other hand, every people that has attained to a commonness in all that really matters in human relations and human thought, and established the same rights and rules for all,—wisely allowing diversity and individual freedom in minor matters and private life, has succeeded in assimilating diverse tribes and races, created homogeneous nations, and even founded world empires. Such were the ten tribes that nestled on the slopes of the seven-hilled city. Such are the happy islanders

whose laureate has boasted "Saxon and Norman and Dane are we."

This ever-expanding community of life and thought has been the secret of origin, the vital force, the binding cement of the world-empires of ancient Rome and modern Britain. On the other hand, the races that have clung to the lines of communal cleavage, magnified the differences in the externals of life and thought, and ignored the unity possible in the essentials, may have produced a few great poets, holy saints or master craftsmen, but they have contributed nothing of enduring value to the ever-growing civilization of the world. To such races we can say

Lo ! all your pomp of yesterday  
Is one with Nineveh and Tyre !

Associating with such a people is like travelling with a coddled darling of his mother who can live only on certain special dishes cooked in a special manner by the ladies of his family. If we emphasise the external differences between man and man, creed and creed, if we constantly harp on the special genius of our race, the ancient heritage of our country, and our unique position as a peculiar people with a peculiar mission on earth; then we shall only miss the substance for the shadow.

It is the duty of a University to impress this secret of national progress upon all who come under its influence, to convince them of its supreme

importance and to send them forth into the world to preach and practise it.

Let us strive, honestly, manfully, ceaselessly, to acquire this community of life and thought with the wide ever-moving civilized world, let us give up nursing our provincial or sectarian pride and prejudice, and then and then only will an Indian nation be possible. Then and then only will an Indian nation be capable of rising to a sublimer height where national differences and prejudices slink away in shame and give place to a recognition of the supreme claims of the broadest humanity, the common brotherhood of all men in a loving equal family of nations. This universality, this world-embracing humanity, has been taught by the most ancient philosophers of our land and by our living master-singer whose song-offerings have laid a healing balm on the heart of war-stricken Europe. Let our University make this community of life and thought the intellectual property and the rule of conduct of every one of her sons, if we wish to see a new dawn of peace and hope in our land.

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## APPENDIX

### TO THE VICE-CHANCELLOR'S CONVOCATION ADDRESS

**A brief statement of the research work done by the members of the University staff during the year 1926.**

#### **Sanskrit.**

MR. HARGOVIND DAS SHETH is printing the fourth and last volume of his *Prakrit Dictionary*.

DR. PASUPATI SASTRI is engaged in preparing a new edition of Vrata's commentary on the *Rgveda-Pratisakhyā*.

A new edition of the *Desi-nama-mala* by MR. MURALIDHAR BANERJEE is being printed by the University.

MR. SATKARI MUKERJEE is working on the Tibetan versions of some Sanskrit texts.

#### **Pali.**

DR. BENIMADHAV BARUA has published a monograph on the Barhut inscriptions and also some studies on Buddhism and Ancient India.

DR. NALINAKSHA DUTT is continuing his enquiries into the early history of Buddhism in India.

#### **Indian Vernaculars.**

DR. DINESHCHANDRA SEN has published one volume of Bengali text and one volume of English translation of the *Eastern Bengal Ballads*, edited and annotated by him from the materials collected by Chandrakumar De, and other ballad collectors appointed by the University.

MR. BASANTARANJAN RAY is editing old Bengali texts and cataloguing early Bengali MSS., besides gathering materials for a comprehensive dictionary of early Bengali.

MR. PRIYARANJAN SEN has translated into Bengali the Bengali Grammar written in the Portuguese language by Padre Assumpsam (published at Lisbon in 1743).

### History.

DR. D. R. BHANDARKAR is preparing a revised list of Northern Inscriptions which is expected to replace Kielhorn's. He also published three papers.

MR. S. KHUDA BAKHSH has continued his useful work of making accessible to English readers the labours of German writers on Islamic culture and history, his latest work being an English translation of Josef Hell's *Arab Civilisation*.

Ancient Indian Polity and Society are being studied by MR. NARAYAN CHANDRA BANERJEE and DR. UPENDRA NATH GHOSHAL. MR. INDUBHUSHAN BANERJI has published two papers on Sikh history, based on original documents.

The fascinating subject of India's cultural connection with Further India is being studied and popularised by some of our Professors trained in Paris, notably DR. PRABODH CHANDRA BAGCHI and DR. KALIDAS NAG. The former of these two has also opened classes for the teaching of Chinese to our students.

### Philosophy.

MR. S. RADHAKRISHNAN, our George V Professor of Philosophy, was deputed to Europe and America, to deliver the Upton Lectures at Oxford and the Haskell Lectures at Chicago, besides attending the International Congress of Philosophy at Harvard. His Upton Lectures, entitled *The Hindu View of Life*, have been published and widely appreciated. DR. S. N. DASGUPTA also conducted a successful lecturing tour in Europe and America.

DR. SUSILKUMAR MAITRA has published his *Ethics of the Hindus* during this year.

MR. KOKILESHWAR SASTRI has brought out a revised and enlarged edition of his two useful works on the Adwaita system, which have been well appreciated abroad.

### Economics.

MR. RAMCHANDRA RAU has published several papers on various aspects of economics in India.

MR. JITENDRAPRASAD NIYOGI contributed a thoughtful paper on the *Taxation of Agricultural Income in Bengal* to the Indian Economic Conference.

MR. HARISHCHANDRA SINHA received his doctorate on the strength of an original treatise on *Early European Banking in India*.

### **Anthropology.**

RAO BAHADUR L. K. ANANTHAKRISHNA AIYAR has finished printing his monograph on the Syrian Christians of Malabar, Cochin and Travancore.

DR. BIRAJASANKAR GUHA has been studying the human skeletons discovered in the pre-historic sites of India.

MR. B. C. MAZUMDAR has completed a paper on the Ethnology of the Aborigines of the Highlands of Central India, and MR. ANATH-NATH CHATTERJI a monograph on the Hos of Seraikella.

### **Experimental Psychology.**

Papers have been published on different branches of the subject by DR. N. N. SEN GUPTA and MESSRS. MANMATHANATH BANERJI, HARIPADA MAITI and MOHANLAL GANGULI. DR. GIRINDRA-SEKHAR BOSE is conducting intensive researches into several problems of this science.

### **Mathematics.**

DR. SYAMADAS MUKHERJI has published three original papers on *Non-Euclidean Geometry and Finite Geometry*.

DR. SURENDRANATH GANGULI has published the second edition of his *Theory of Plane Curves*, Vol. II.

DR. GANES PRASAD has contributed papers to the *Bulletin of the Calcutta Mathematical Society* and guided the research of several of his pupils.

### **Physics.**

DR. C. V. RAMAN has extended the scope of his investigations into the scattering of light, and has contributed an article on the theory of musical instruments to the *Handbuch der Physik*. The *Indian Journal of Physics* (the bulletin of the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science) is being edited by DR. RAMAN and continues to publish his researches and those of his collaborators and pupils.

DR. D. M. BOSE dealt with the magnetic properties of compounds in his address as President of the Physics Section of the Science Congress, Lahore.

DR. S. K. MITRA is working on atmospherics in co-operation with the Radio Research Board of England.

DR. P. N. GHOSH is continuing his work in Applied Physics.

Two of the papers prepared by him and his collaborators have appeared in the *Phil. Magazine* and *Nature*.

DR. BIDHUBHUSHAN RAY, after working under Professors Siegbahn and Bohr (both Nobel Prize winners), returned to our Science College last year, and has won the Elliot Prize for Science.

### Chemistry.

SIR P. C. RAY has published several papers by himself and his collaborators in the *Journal of the Indian Chemical Society*.

DR. H. K. SEN dealt with the fuel problem in his address as President of the Chemistry Section of the Indian Science Congress at Lahore.

DR. P. C. MITTER has contributed learned papers and notes in co-operation with his colleagues and advanced pupils.

DR. JNANENDRANATH MUKHERJI continued his researches in soil acidity, the value of which has been acknowledged by Prof. Zsigmondy in his *Colloid Chemistry* and also in several other standard works.

DR. JNANENDRANATH RAY, after working on alkaloids under Prof. Robinson of Manchester, and DR. MAHENDRANATH GOSWAMI, after studying catalysis under Prof. Sabatier of Toulouse, returned to our Science College last year and have started new lines of research here.

### Zoology, &c.

DR. BASANTAKUMAR DAS who joined the department of Zoology only in October last, has since then been engaged in equipping and reorganising the laboratory and guiding research. In England he completed a large monograph on certain air-breathing fishes of India, which will be published in the *Philosophical Transactions* of the Royal Society, and since his return he has been working on another branch of the same subject.

DRS. P. BRÜHL AND AGHARKAR have completed a number of learned papers on Indian Botany, some of which have been already published. They have also supervised the research work of their pupils.

Other members of Science department have contributed papers to various learned journals, and all have, in addition to conducting researches of their own, guided the work of the M.Sc. students, several of whom submit a piece of research in lieu of a written paper

at their examination. The individual papers contributed to the Indian Journals of Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics, Natural History, etc., are too many to be enumerated here.

### **Geology.**

**MR. HEMCHANDRA DASGUPTA** has published several papers throwing light on various points of Indian pre-history and social practices.

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